

**BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM**

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION  
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
(518)237-8643

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
QUAD. \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG.NO. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: Kathy Howe DATE: Sept. 1994

YOUR ADDRESS: 133 South Fitzhugh Street TELEPHONE: (716)546-7029

Rochester, NY 14608

ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

\* \* \* \* \*

**IDENTIFICATION**

1. BUILDING NAME(S): Wilkinson House (present Stutzman's Guitar Center)
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN: Greece
3. STREET LOCATION: 4405 West Ridge Road
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [ ] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: David A. Stutzman ADDRESS: (same) Rochester, NY 14626
6. USE: Original: Residence/farm Present: Guitar shop/residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes[X] No[ ]  
Interior accessible: Explain Shop at front of house open to customers only. Rear portion is a private residence.

**DESCRIPTION**

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard [X] b. stone [X](fdn.) c. brick [ ] d. board and batten [ ]  
e. cobblestone [ ] f. shingles [ ] g. stucco [ ] other: Vinyl siding at front and east (?) elev. Other elevations appear to be clapboard. Asphalt roof shingles.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints [X]  
b. wood frame with light members [ ]  
c. masonry load bearing walls [ ]  
d. metal (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. other \_\_\_\_\_
10. CONDITION: a. excellent [ ] b. good [X] c. fair [ ] d. deteriorated [ ]
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site [X] b. moved [ ] if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"This is an imposing house, but it's a little 'gussied-up.' The entrance porch around the front door isn't original. Given that, it's a 'green plus.' " P.Malo.

COLOR CODE

Green plus





14. THREATS TO BUILDING:

- a. none known [ ]                      b. zoning [X]\*                      c. roads [X]\*\*  
d. developers [ ]                      e. deterioration [ ]  
f. other: \*Commercial zoning in area. \*\*Located on a busy road.

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:

- a. barn [X]                      b. carriage house [ ]                      c. garage [ ]  
d. privy [ ]                      e. shed [ ]                      f. greenhouse [ ]  
g. shop [ ]                      h. gardens [ ]  
i. landscape features: \_\_\_\_\_  
j. other: \_\_\_\_\_

16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):

- a. open land [ ]                      b. woodland [ ]  
c. scattered buildings [ ]  
d. densely built-up [X]                      e. commercial [X]  
f. industrial [ ]                      g. residential [X]  
h. other: \_\_\_\_\_

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: probably c. 1810s-1820s.

ARCHITECT: not determined

BUILDER: not determined

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES:

(see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: Agricultural: Farmhouse and outbuilding.



11c.

Interior remodelled for guitar store in 1990.

Vinyl siding added at north and east elevations.

Cross-gable at front appears to be a late-nineteenth-century addition.

Original windows replaced with one-over-one and some two-over-two, double-hung wood sash.

Front entrance has a twentieth-century, Colonial Revival entrance with a pediment.

The west entrance to the guitar shop may have once been an open porch; it is now enclosed. Modern, multi-light windows, a new paneled door, and a wooden ramp for handicapped access have been installed here.

Shed-roofed addition with bay window projects from the east elevation of the rear block.

17. This Federal style house is located on a 1.4 acre lot on the south side of West Ridge Road in the southwest quadrant of the town. It sits on a slight knoll and is surrounded by mature deciduous trees. The front elevation faces north. Located behind the house to the southwest is a contributing frame barn. The surrounding neighborhood is comprised of mixed residential and commercial uses. Adjacent buildings on the south side of the street include early-twentieth-century houses and a modern car dealership. Across the street is another car dealership.

18. The house is comprised of a two-story, gable-roofed front block with a lower, one and one-half story, gable-roofed block in the rear. It is constructed atop a foundation of reddish brown stone. Vinyl siding has been added at the north and east elevations. Wood clapboards appear to be intact beneath the vinyl at the front elevation.

The front block is five bays wide by two bays deep and has a low-pitched, side-gabled roof with a centered cross gable added at the front. The decorative detailing of this cross gable, which features vertical tongue and groove boards with a sawtooth

18. continued

edge, would most likely date it from the late nineteenth century.

Fenestration is regular and repetitive. The front facade is symmetrically balanced with a central entrance and two windows on either side. The entrance has been altered; the present paneled wood door is a twentieth-century Colonial Revival type door with multipaned sidelights. Two curved brackets support a triangular pediment above. The first floor windows at the front are tall with one-over-one, double-hung replacement sash. These windows may have originally been shorter in height. The five windows at the second floor are one-over-one, double-hung replacement sash. (The original windows on this Federal style house may have been six-over-six, double-hung.) Beneath the eaves is a frieze board.

Projecting from the back of the house is a one and one-half story, cross-gabled frame wing. This wing is constructed on a stone foundation and is clad with wood clapboards. The gable end on the west elevation features decorative diagonal stickwork. The present shed-roofed entrance to the guitar shop in the center of the west elevation may have originally been an open porch. Two large, multi-light windows, a paneled door, and a handicapped access ramp have been added here.

A one-story, gable-roofed wing projects from the west elevation of the rear block. There is an entrance with a shed-roofed hood in the center of the south elevation of the rear block. The window above this is a modern replacement. Projecting from the east elevation of the rear block is a shed-roofed addition with a bay window. The rear wing appears to be an addition.

The contributing barn is a front-gabled frame structure with vertical tongue-and-groove siding. A small shed roof projects above the first floor. Overhead garage doors are located on the north elevation. The original loft door and oculus window are intact on the north elevation. There is a one-over-one, double-hung replacement window on the west elevation.

20. Built in the early nineteenth century, this former farmhouse is historically significant for its association with the early settlement of West Greece. It is also architecturally significant as rare survivor of a Federal style farmhouse in the town of Greece.

20. continued

The exact date of construction for the house is not known. Its Federal style design would most likely date it from the 1810s-20s. A building appears in the same approximate location as this house on the 1852 county map with the owner's name, Orrin Hale. The 1858 county map shows the house on part of lot 149 owned by H. Wilkinson. The 1872 county map lists the property under the ownership of E.G. Wilkinson. The 1902 county map shows the house on a 55-1/2 acre lot owned by Elon G. Wilkinson. He also owned an additional 18 acres across the street to the north. The property also appears on the 1924 county map with 33-3/4 acres owned by Elon G. Wilkinson. Mrs. Emma E. Wilkinson is listed as the owner in the 1930 and 1938 suburban directories.

The house is located on Ridge Road which was formerly the shoreline of glacial Lake Iroquois and later a main trail of the Iroquois Indians. In 1813, the State Legislature allocated \$5,000 to cut down brush and to bridge streams along the Ridge from Rochester to Lewiston. This and later improvements along the road opened the way for settlers to establish their homes, farms and businesses along the Ridge. Ridge Road was an important coach road throughout the nineteenth century, and is now a busy modern highway.

This house is located in the area historically known as West Greece or Hoosic at the intersection of Ridge Road and Manitou Road. The 1872 county map shows the Methodist and Congregational churches, a store, post office and several houses located in this settlement.

Although the house has undergone a significant number of alterations through the years, the front block still retains its basic Federal style massing and symmetrical facade. Identifying Federal style features of the main block include the simple rectangular plan with side-gabled roof, the symmetrical five-bay facade with center entrance, windows aligned horizontally and vertically in rows, and a frieze band. The addition of the cross-gable at the front of the roof with its decorative woodwork represents the former owner's concern for being current with the latest architectural fashions of the late-nineteenth century.

20. continued

If the synthetic siding were removed and the original clapboards repaired, the architectural integrity of the building would improve. The intact frame barn behind the house adds to the integrity of the setting.

While many settlement-era houses along Ridge Road in Greece have been razed for modern commercial development, the Wilkinson House has managed to survive thus adding to its importance in the town's history.

21.

Assessment Records. Assessment Office, Town of Greece, NY.

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Beers, F.W. *Atlas of Monroe County, New York.* New York: F.W. Beers & Co., 1872.

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Brown, P.J. *Map of Monroe County, New York.* Addison, NY: A.G. Gillett, Publisher, 1852.

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*Map of Monroe County, N.Y.* Philadelphia. PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1924.

*Plat Book of Monroe County, New York.* Philadelphia, PA: J.M. Lathrop & Co., 1902.

*Rochester Suburban Directory of the Year 1930.* Rochester, NY: Sampson & Murdock Co., 1930.

*Rochester Suburban Directory for the Year 1938.* Rochester, NY: Sampson & Murdock Co., 1937.

*Wagner's Complete Survey of Monroe County, New York.* Cincinnati, Ohio: A.C. Wagner Co., 1928.





